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University of California
College of Agriculture
Agricultural Experiment Station
Berkeley, California

SEASONAL LABOR NEEDS FOR CALIFORNIA CROPS

VENTURA COUNTY

Progress Report No. 56

by

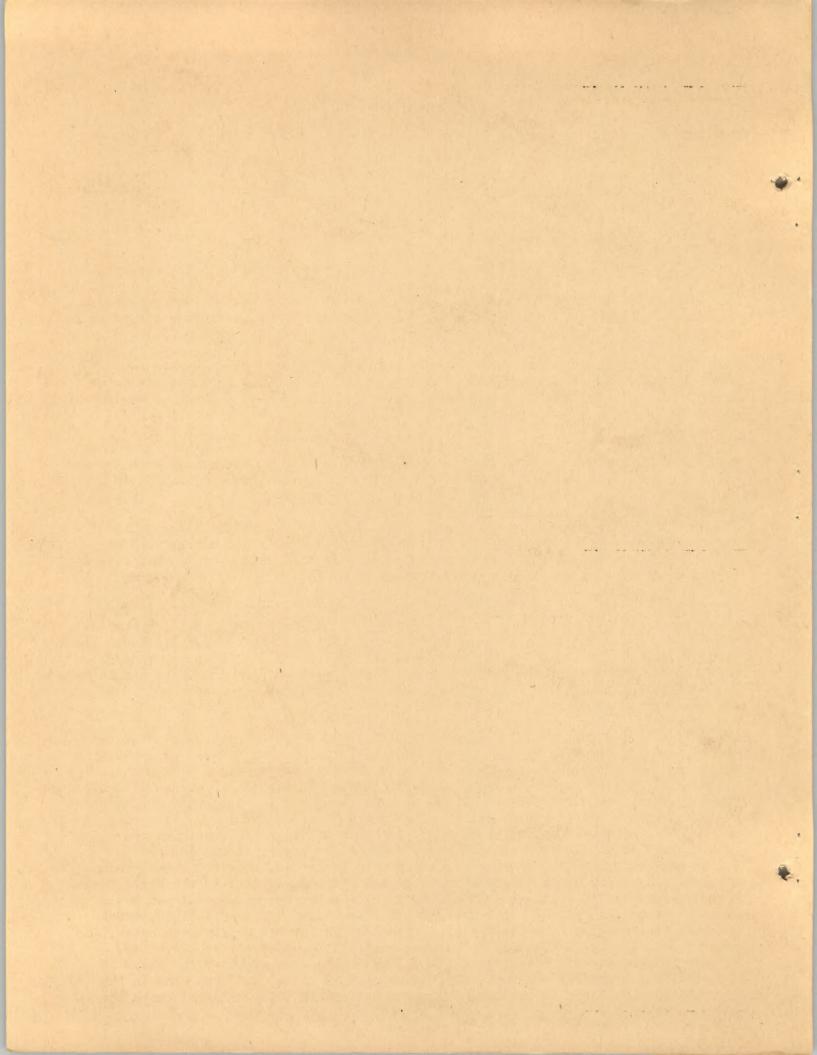
R. L. Adams

Freliminary -- Subject to Correction

November, 1936

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(Farm Labor Survey -- January-June, 1936)

Progress Report No. 56

Seasonal Labor Needsfor California Crops

Ventura County

Scope of Fresentation -- The following considerations govern the presentation of this progress report:

- 1. The data are confined to the area indicated above.
- 2. The data are confined solely to crops, livestock needs being ignored.
- 3. The findings apply only to occasional or seasonal labor requirements as distinguished from labor contributed by farm operators and by workers employed on a year-round or regular basis of employment.
- 4. Attention is concentrated upon workers required for hand tasks -planting, thinning, weeding, hoeing, and harvesting -- without including teamsters,
 tractor drivers, irrigators, hay balers, threshermen, and shed packers of vegetables
 or fruits.
- 5. The presentation includes the so-called migratory, transient, or roving workers which comprise an important source of help needed in connection with certain tasks and at "peak" times which seasonally arise in connection with many field, truck, and fruit crops commercially produced in California.
- 6. This report is confined to California's need for seasonal agricultural workers because of the more pressing problems liable to arise in connection therewith. A later study is planned which will deal with other kinds of labor involved in the production of California's many crops.

Brief Description of the Area. -- Ventura County is one of California's southern coast counties, its southeastern corner being about 28 miles northwest of the center of Los Angeles. It is bounded on the southwest by the Facific Ocean for about 40 miles. On the west it joins Santa Barbara County, the boundary running northward about 36 miles. On the north it is divided from Kern County by a more or less irregular line, which runs in a general east-west direction for about 33 miles. On the east and southeast it joins Los Angeles County.

The agricultural portion lies almost wholly in the southern half of the county, and is largely confined to the valleys of the several rivers and tributaries which drain the area and the coastal plain upon which they emerge. The most important of these is the Santa Clara River Valley which extends for about 40 miles in a northeasterly direction from the vicinity of Oxnard, and is contiguous to the towns of Saticoy, Santa Paula, Fillmore, Piru and other communities. It varies in width from a mile or less, to about 3 miles where it leaves the mountains near Saticoy, and is about 800 feet above sea level in its upper parts. Another important farming district lies along the Arroyo Los Posas, which occupies a somewhat smaller valley about 10 miles south of and roughly parallel to the Santa Clara River Valley, and is contiguous to the towns of Sormis, Moorpark, Simi and Santa Susana. It ranges from 250 to 1,200 feet in elevation. The Oxnard Flain, which lies near the mouth of the Santa Clara River, is the largest nearly level area, and is about 8 miles by 12 miles in extent and mostly under 100 feet in elevation. Another farming district lies along the valley of the Ventura River for about 15 miles inland, averaging somewhat less than a mile in width, and expanding in the northern portion where it is joined by the Santa Ana and Ojai valleys, which are

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Sectional leader Medair California Groud

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750 feet and 1,500 feet in elevation, respectively, in their higher portions. Farming is also carried on in several smaller valleys, and to a considerable elevation on the rolling hills in various parts of the county.

The most intensively cultivated soils are of recent alluvial origin, of the Yolo series. They range from clay loam to sand in texture, with fine sandy loam and loam predominating. Several other soils of different series are represented in the hilly parts, some of them heavier in texture than the valley soils.

The county contains a total of 1,189,120 acres of which 180,637 acres are classed as available for crops by the 1935 Census. This is further classified as follows by the census for the crop year, 1934:

	Acreage
Crop land harvested	151,338
Crop failure	2,447
Crop land idle or fallow	10,737
Plowable pasture	16,115
Total	180,637

Crop acreages in 1935 are roughly estimated to have been as follows:

	Acreage
Field crops	97,445
Vegetable crops	7,768
Orchard crops, bearing	52,033
Orchard crops, nonbearing	13,703
	170,949

Crops, Acreages, and Production. -- The basis used in calculating occasional or seasonal need for labor, other than that furnished by farm operators and regularly employed workers appears as table 1.

Production figures are from "Ventura County Crop Report for 1935" by A. H. Call, Agricultural Commissioner. Due to lack of assembled data, acreage figures have been compiled from various sources. Bean acreages are from the California Lima Bean Growers' Association, Oxnard. Alfalfa acreage is an estimate by Mr. Call -- (the 1935 Census reported 6,541 acres.) Endive acreage is an estimate by Crabb Brothers, Oxnard. Tomato acreage is estimated by Thomas Robertson, chairman, Farm Bureau Vegetable Department. Other vegetable acreages are taken from California Co-operative Crop Reporting Service, "Acreage of Specified Commercial Vegetable Crops by Counties -- 1935." Acreages of hay and grain are estimated from the total production on the basis of average yields per acre. Acreages in orchard crops are from a survey recently conducted (May 1, 1936) by the Agricultural Commissioner, and include only bearing acreage.

Crchard acreage is from a survey by the Agricultural Commissioner, released May 1, 1936.

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TABLE 1
Basis for Calculating Seasonal Labor Requirements -- Ventura County

Crops	Acreage	Froduction
Field crops: Beans large lima (irrigated) large lima (not irrigated)	27,244	476,324 bags
blackeye (not	4,000	36,418 bags
irrigated) other varieties	2,550	31,057 bags
Grain barley		84,414 bags
oats wheat	7,000	6,870 bags
Hay alfalfa	estimated 6,000	9,611 bags 17,500 tons
other than alfalfa	30,000	30,000 tons
Sugar beets	7,274	65,630 tons
Bean straw mostly baled		27,000 tons
Vegetable crops:	1	
Cabbage		22 cars
Carrots fall and winter, 1,000 spring,1,350	2,350	522 cars of 350 crates = 182,700 packed crates
Cauliflower		7,298 crates
Celery summer	200	277 cars of 350 crates =
Endive	150.	96,950 packed crates 48 cars of 320 crates =
		15,360 packed crates
Lettuce spring, 150 fall, 50	200	
Peas spring, 1,500 } fall, 500	2,000	151 cars of 651 hampers = 98,301 hampers
Parsley	150	9 cars
Peppers bell	150	20 cars and) about 501,620 53,620 pounds pounds
Pimientos	718	53,620 pounds) pounds 2,100 tons
Tomatoes canning	1,200	6,9 6 8 tons
marketing and shipping	800	207 242
and simpling	800	287,242 packed lugs of 32 pounds
Orchard crops:		
Apricots	4,547	2,011 tons dried) = 10,605 tons
Almonds	317	550 tons green) green weigh
		33,400 pounds meats
Avocados	18,960 trees	448,128 pounds
Lemons Oranges	8,662	3,321,716 field boxes of 50 pounds
Grapefruit	14,025	2,540,563 field boxes of 55 pounds 66,224 field boxes of 40 pounds
Tangerines	41	3,347 boxes (loose)
Grapes	367	726 tons
Walnuts	23,102	11,474 tons merchantable
		1,818 tons culls

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			Field orope:
	476,324 begs	27,244	Second - large line (irrigated)
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-1		f	(trrigated)
-	38,418 bags	4,000	blashaye (not
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1	51,057 bags	2,550	seldelasy rendo
	Serel Dage		Grain - barley
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	65,630 tons	7,274	Sugar beets
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			Vacotable crops:
-	stee SS		Cabbage
			Carrots sill and winter
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1	6,988 tops	1,200	Tomatoes canning
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	: 2,011 tons dried a 10,505 tons	1,547	Apricota
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	tons nuts and	317	Almonds
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	648,128 pounds	neers 080 and	acheenvA.
N	3,321,716 field boxes of 50 pounds	388,8	temonal
1	2,840,865 flold boxes of 55 rounds	14,025	Orazaros
	66,254 field bowes of 40 pounds	212	Orispat Print
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Operations Requiring Use of Seasonal Labor and Time of Need. -- Farm operations requiring the use of seasonal or occasional labor for the various crops raised in Ventura County are indicated in table 2. This tabulation does not include the employing of shed workers needed to wash, pack, and prepare various commodities for shipping and marketing.

TABLE 2
Operations Requiring Use of Seasonal Labor and Times of Need by Crops
Ventura County

Crop	Operation	Time of need
Field crops: Alfalfa hay	Mowing Raking Shocking Baling	April to November, inclusive, 12 per cent of acreage each month
Beans	Hoeing average 1 time	June 33 per cent of acreage July 66 per cent of acreage
	Piling	August 15-30 Blackeye acreage September 1-30 25 per cent of lima bean acreage October 1-31 75 per cent of lima bean acreage
	Threshing 80 per cent by seasonal workers	September 15-30 20 per cent of crop
Grain barley oats wheat	Harvesting Mostly by combine 75 per cent by seasonal workers	June 15-30 30 per cent of crop July 1-31 50 per cent of crop August 1-31 20 per cent of crop
Grain hay	Mowing 50 per cent by seasonal workers	May 66 per cent of acreage
	Raking 50 per cent by seasonal workers	June-33 per cent of acreage
	Shocking 50 per cent by seasonal workers	May 40 per cent of tonnage
	Trimming 50 per cent by seasonal workers	June 40 per cent of tonnage
	Baling (80 per cent of crop) 90 per cent by seasonal workers	July 20 per cent of tonnage
Sugar beets	Thinning	February 12 per cent of acreage
Bean straw	Baling	September 15-30 25 per cent of tonnage October 1-31 50 per cent of tonnage November 1-15 25 per cent of tonnage

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Operations Requiring Use of Seasonal Labor and Times of Need by Grope Ventura County

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Contract Special Contract Cont	April to November, inclusive, 12 per cent of acreage each month	Mowing Raking by regular help Shooking Baling	Field crops: Alfalfa hey
-	June - 55 per cent of acroage July - 66 per cent of acroage	Hoeing average 1 time	Bonns
The state of the s	August 15-30 Blackeye coronge September 1-30 25 per cent of lime bear arrenge October 1-31 75 per cent of lime bear acreege		
	September 16-30 20 per cent of crop fotober 1-31 80 per cent of orep	Threshing == 50 per cent by scaeonal workers	
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	July - 20 per cent of topusco	ningidi	Surar beets
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Table 2 continued.			
Crop	Operation	Time of need	
Vegetable crops: Carrots	Weeding	July 10 per cent of acreage August 10 per cent of acreage September 10.5 per cent of acreage October 7.5 per cent of acreage November 13.5 per cent of acreage December 16 per cent of acreage January 25 per cent of acreage February 7.5 per cent of acreage	
	Harvesting	October 2.7 per cent of crop November 8.1 per cent of crop December 9.2 per cent of crop January 10.6 per cent of crop February 7.6 per cent of crop March 13.6 per cent of crop April 15.9 per cent of crop May 24.6 per cent of crop June 6.3 per cent of crop July 1.2 per cent of crop	
Celery	Harvesting	January 1.5 per cent of crop February 4.9 per cent of crop March 14.7 per cent of crop April 4.5 per cent of crop May 25.7 per cent of crop June 46.8 per cent of crop	
Endive	Thinning	August 15-31 40 per cent of acreage September 1-21 60 per cent of acreage	
	Hoeing	September 50 per cent of acreage October 50 per cent of acreage	
	Cutting	November 5-30 25 per cent of crop December 1-31 37 1/2 per cent of crop January 1-31 37 1/2 per cent of crop	
Peas	Picking	December 5 per cent of crop January 51 per cent of crop February 44 per cent of crop	
Peppers	Hoeing	May 20-31 25 per cent of acreage	

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Table 2 continued	Operation	Time of need
Peppers (continued)	Hoeing	June 1-30 80 per cent of acreage
	Thinning and transplanting	June 1-30 80 per cent of acreage July 1-7 20 per cent of acreage
	Picking pimientos	October 1-31 25 per cent of crop November 1-30 50 per cent of crop December 1-31-25 per cent of crop
	Picking boll peppers	October 85 per cent of crop November 15 per cent of crop
Tomatoes canning	Transplanting 50 per cent by seasonal workers	May 66 per cent of acreage June 33 per cent of acreage
	Hoeing	June 50 per cent of acreage July 50 per cent of acreage
	Picking	September 35 per cent of tonnage October 50 per cent of tonnage November 1-15 15 per cent of tonnage
Tomatoes shipping	Transplanting	June 1-30 66 per cent of acreage July 1-15 33 per cent of acreage
	Hoeing	July 50 per cent of acreage August 50 per cent of acreage
	Picking*	August 3 per cent of crop September 35 per cent of crop October 56 per cent of crop November 6 per cent of crop
Orchard crops: Apricots	Pruning 50 per cent by seasonal workers	October 33 per cent of acreage November 33 per cent of acreage December 33 per cent of acreage
	Picking	June 15-30 10 per cent of crop July 1-31 90 per cent of crop

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Table 2 continued.				
Crop	Operation	Time of need		
Apricots (continued)	Cutting for drying	June 15-30 10 per cent of crop July 1-31 90 per cent of crop		
	Other dry-yard labor	June 15-30 10 per cent of crop July 1-31 90 per cent of crop		
Citrus lemons	Picking +	November 3.6 per cent of crop December 7.9 per cent of crop January 10.6 per cent of crop February 12.2 per cent of crop March 12.7 per cent of crop April 13.6 per cent of crop May 13.2 per cent of crop June 9.1 per cent of crop July 6.5 per cent of crop August 3.9 per cent of crop September 3.1 per cent of crop October 3.6 per cent of crop		
oranges	Picking	November 10.7 per cent of crop December 1.2 per cent of crop January 2.6 per cent of crop February 4.1 per cent of crop March 4.0 per cent of crop April 4.3 per cent of crop May 9.4 per cent of crop June 11.6 per cent of crop July 15.1 per cent of crop August 11.7 per cent of crop September 12.8 per cent of crop		
Grapefruit	Picking	August 60 per cent of crop September 30 per cent of crop October 10 per cent of crop		
All varieties	Fumigating on 50 per cent of citrus acreage or about 11,450 acres	July 15-31 10 per cent of job August 1-31 25 per cent of job September 1-30 25 per cent of job October 1-31 25 per cent of job November 1-30 15 per cent of job		
Walnuts	Harvesting by hand	September 25 per cent of crop October 70 per cent of crop November 5 per cent of crop		

^{*}Figures are for 1935 crop of shipping tomatoes, which was lighter than usual. A greater proportion is usually harvested in November.

[†] Lemon picking by months is based on lemon "pick" of the Ventura County Citrus Exchange for the 1934-35 season.

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THE R. LEWIS CO., LANSING, MICH.

Findings of Seasonal Labor Needs .-- Details and summaries of seasonal labor requirements of Ventura County agriculture are presented as table 3. The "size of task" are figures drawn from table 1 in terms of either acreage or output in tons, crates, boxes, or whatever unit is commonly used. The "output per man-day" is an average figure for the entire acreage or output figured in packed crates, hampers, or boxes (in case of fruits and vegetables). If the work is of a nature that requires a crew different members of which perform different tasks (such as cutting, trimming, loading, and hauling cauliflower; trimming and crating celery, etc.) then the average shown is per man based on the entire crew. Length of day is 9 hours unless otherwise stated. Wide variations in output occur between farm and farm, field and field, and season and season, because of differences in soil types, climatic conditions, weeds, yields, and other factors influencing the amount of work that a laborer can perform in a given day. Moreover, the basis of output is a mature, experienced male worker, without reference to use of women, children, and more or less inexperienced help that is sometimes used in connection with certain of the tasks requiring use of seasonal workers. The column headed "available days" reflects (a) limitations set from the period within which the work must be performed because of the nature of the task, such as transplanting, thinning, weeding, and cutting, and (b) available days as determined by weather conditions, inclement weather reducing the number of days when a required task can be performed. The "required number of individuals" is given in terms of workers as noted above in connection with "output per man-day".

It is probable that the estimated number of workers required, as recorded in table 3, will often be too low for the reason that "peaks" frequently occur during which an unusually large proportion of the job is done in a very short period. This would naturally require a much greater number of workers than when the work is spread over a longer period, even though the total amount of labor (in man-days) remains the same.

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TABLE 3

Seasonal Labor Needs -- Ventura County -- by Months and Tasks

January Car Cel End Pes	op and task rrots: Weeding Harvesting lery: Harvesting dive: Cutting as: Picking trus Lemons: Picking Oranges: Picking Totals	Size of task 588 acres 19,366 crates 1,455 crates 5,760 crates 50,134 hampers 352,102 field boxes	Output per man-day 60 hours per acre 12 packed crates 25 crates 37 crates 4 hampers 21 field boxes	Required man-days 3,920 1,614 59 156 12,534	Available days 19 19 4 19 19	Required number of workers* 207 85 15 (for 4 days) 9 660
January Car Cel End Pes	rrots: Weeding Harvesting lery: Harvesting dive: Cutting as: Picking trus Lemons: Picking Oranges: Picking	588 acres 19,366 crates 1,455 crates 5,760 crates 50,134 hampers 352,102 field boxes	60 hours per acre 12 packed crates 25 crates 37 crates 4 hampers	3,920 1,614 59 156 12,534	19 19 4 19	207 85 15 (for 4 days)
Cel End Pes	Harvesting lery: Harvesting dive: Cutting as: Picking trus Lemons: Picking Oranges: Picking	19,366 crates 1,455 crates 5,760 crates 50,134 hampers 352,102 field boxes	12 packed crates 25 crates 37 crates 4 hampers	1,614 59 156 12,534	19 4 19 19	85 15 (for 4 days) 9
Cel End Pes	Harvesting lery: Harvesting dive: Cutting as: Picking trus Lemons: Picking Oranges: Picking	19,366 crates 1,455 crates 5,760 crates 50,134 hampers 352,102 field boxes	12 packed crates 25 crates 37 crates 4 hampers	1,614 59 156 12,534	19 4 19 19	85 15 (for 4 days) 9
End Pes	lery: Harvesting dive: Cutting as: Picking trus - Lemons: Picking Oranges: Picking	1,455 crates 5,760 crates 50,134 hampers 352,102 field boxes	25 crates 37 crates 4 hampers	59 156 12,534	4 19 19	15 (for 4 days)
End Pes	dive: Cutting as: Picking trus - Lemons: Picking Oranges: Picking	5,760 crates 50,134 hampers 352,102 field boxes	37 crates 4 hampers	156 12,534	19 19	9
Pea	as: Picking trus Lemons: Picking Oranges: Picking	50,134 hampers 352,102 field boxes	4 hampers	12,534	19	660
	trus Lemons: Picking Oranges: Picking	352,102 field boxes				
011	Picking Oranges: Picking		21 field boxes		1	
	Oranges: Picking			16,767	19	883
1		IRE Obb field hoved	30 field boxes	2,202	19	116
	TOTALS	00,033 field boxes	30 TICIG DOXES	37,252	19	1.961 man-months
February Sug	gar beets: Thin-			0.,100		
Topi dai y	ning	873 acres	0.5 acre	1,746	23	76
Car	-	176 acres	60 hours per acre	1,174	23	51
Cal	Harvesting	13,855 crates	12 packed crates	1,155	23	51
Cel		4,750 crates	25 crates	190	14	15 (for 14 days)
		43.252 hampers	4 hampers	10,813	23	471
	trus - Lemons:	TO POOL STAMPOND	- a and a constant			
		405,250 field boxes	23 field boxes	17,620	23	766
	_	104,163 field boxes	45 field boxes	2,314	23	101
	Totals	201/200 12020 20000		35,012	23	1,523 man-months
March Sug	gar beets:					
	Thinning	1.746 acres	0.5 acre	3,492	24	146
		727 acres	2.5 acres	291	24	13
Car		24,847 crates	12 packed crates	2,071	24	87
		14,252 crates	25 crates	571	24	24
	trus Lemons:					
		421,858 field boxes	23 field boxes	18,342	24	765
	_	101,622 field boxes	45 field boxes	2,254	24	94
	Totals			27,021	24	1,126 man-months
April Alf	falfa hay: Baling	2,100 tons	4 tons	525	24	22
	gar beets:					
	Thinning	3,201 acres	0.5 acre	6,402	24	267
	Hoeing	1,455 acres	2.5 acres	582	24	25

Table continued on next page.

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Table 2 c	continued.	***	T	Danier	A	Denvine & munhous
		0:	Out not non non don	Required	Available	Required number
Month	Crop and task	Size of task	Output per man-day	man-days	days	of workers*
April	Carrots: Harvesting	29.049 crates	12 packed crates	2,421	24	101
(cont.)	Celery: Harvesting	4,363 crates	25 crates	175	13	14 (for 13 days)
(cont.)	Citrus Lemons:	4,000 010005	20 012003	1.0	10	14 (101 10 44)5/
	Picking	451,753 field boxes	28 field boxes	16,134	24	673
		109,244 field boxes	45 field boxes	2,428	24	102
	Totals			28,667	24	1,195 man-months
May	Alfalfa hay: Baling	2,100 tons	4 tons	525	25	21
	Grain hay: Mowing	10,000 acres +	10 acres	1,000	26	39
	Raking	10,000 acres+	20 acres	500	26	20
	Shocking	10,000 acres +	30 acres	333	26	13
	Trimming	10,000 acres t	10 acres	1,000	26	39
	Baling	8,640 tons	3.5 tons	2,469	26	95
	Sugar beets:					
	Thinning	1,164 acres	0.5 acre	2,328	26	90
	Hoeing	2,182	2.5 acres	873	26	34
	Carrots: Harvesting	44,944 crates	12 packed crates	3,746	26	145
	Celery: Harvesting	24,916 crates	25 packed crates	997	26	39
	Peppers: Hoeing	217 acres	2.0 acres	109	9	12 (from 20th to
	Tomatoes (canning):					31st)
	Transplanting	400 acrest	1.0 acre	400	26	16
	Citrus Lemons:					
	Picking	438,467 field boxes	25 field boxes	17,539	26	675
	Oranges: Picking	238,813 field boxes	50 field boxes	4,777	26	184
	Totals			36,596	26	1,408 man-months
June	Alfalfa hay: Baling		4 tons	525	25	21
	Beans: Hoeing	15,724 acres	2.5 acres	6,290	25	252
	Grain: Harvesting	1,575 acres +	4 acres	394	13	31 (from 15th to
						to 30th)
	Grain hay: Mowing	5,000 acres+	10 acres	500	13	39 (from 1st to
						15th)
	Raking	5,000 acrest	20 acres	250	13	20 (from 1st to
						15th)
	Shocking	5,000 acrest	30 acres	167	13	13 (from 1st to
						15th)
	Trimming	5,000 acres +	10 acres	500	13	39 (from 1st to
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Table 3 continued.

	continued.			Required	Available	Required number
Month	Crop and task Siz	ze of task	Output per man-day	man-days	days	of workers*
* 41						
June		640 tons†	3.5 tons	2,469	25	99
(cont.)	Sugar beets: Thin-					
		l acres	0.5 acre	582	25	24
		182 acres	2.5 acres	873	25	35
		,510 crates	12 packed crates	960	25	39
		,373 crates	25 crates	1,815	25	73
		l acres	2.0 acres	326	25	14
	Trimming and					
		4 acres	0.2 acre	3,470	25	139
	Tomatoes (canning):		_			
		0 acres t	l acre	200	25	8
		O acres	2 acres	300	25	12
	(market): Trans-		_			
		4 acres	3 acres	178	25	8
	Apricots: Picking 1,0	060 tons	2,000 pounds	1,060	12	89 (from 15th
						to 30th)
	Cutting for dryingl,	005 tons	500 pounds	4,020	12	335 (from 15th
						to 30th)
	Other labor in					
i		005 tons	ll hours per fresh tor	1,229	12	103 (from 15th
		K.				to 30th)
	Citrus Lemons:	5.0				
		2,276 field boxes	20 field boxes	15,114	25	605
	Oranges: Picking 294	4,715 field boxes	50 field boxes	5,895	25	236
	Totals			47,117	25	1,885 man-months
July		100 tons	4 tons	525	26	21
		,447 acres	2.5 acres	12,579	26	484
		625 acres +	4 acres	657	26	26
		320 tons †	3.5 tons	1,235	26	48
1		7 acres	2.5 acres	291	26	12
		5 acres	60 hours per acre	1,567	26	61
	Harvesting 2,1	192 crates	12 packed crates	183	10	19 (for 10
						days)
	Peppers: Thinning					
	and transplanting 174	4 acres	0.2 acre	870	26	34

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Table 3 co	ontinued.	T		Poguinod	Available	Do avi no da numbro
Month	Crop and task	Size of task	Output per man-day	man-days		Required number
MOTION	crop and task	Size of task	Output per man-day	man-days	days	of workers*
July (cont.)	Tomatoes (canning): Hoeing (market): Trans-	600 acres	2.0 acres	300	26	12
	planting	266 acres	3.0 acres	89	13	7 (from 1st to 15th)
	Hoeing	400 acres	2.0 acres	200	25	8
	Apricots: Picking	9,545 tons	2,000 pounds	9,545	26	368
	Cutting for drying of Other dry-yard		500 pounds	36,200	26	1,393
	labor	9,050 tons	11 hours per fresh ton	11,062	26	426
	Citrus Lemons: Picking	215,912 field boxes	12 field boxes	17,993	26	692
		383,625 field boxes	50 field boxes	7,673	26	296
	Fumigating	1,145 acres	0.75 acre	1,527	13	118 (from 15th to
	- dillagor varia	1,110 00100	0070 4010	1,021	10	31st)
	Totals			102,496	26	3,943 man-months
August	Alfalfa hay: Baling Beans (all Blackeye):		4 tons	525	25	21
	Piling	4,000 acres	2 acres	2,000	12	167 (from 15th to 31st)
	Grain: Harvesting Sugar beets: Topping	1,050 acres +	4 acres	263	25	11
	and loading	25,596 tons	4.5 tons	5,688	25	228
	Carrots: Weeding	235 acres	60 hours per acre	1,567	25	63
	Endive: Thinning	60 acres	0.5 acre	120	12	10 (from 15th to
	Tomatoes (market):					31st)
	Hoeing	400 acres	2.0 acres	200	25	4
	Picking	8,617 packed lugs	2.3 packed lugs	375	14	27 (for 14 days)
	Citrus Lemons:					
	Picking	129,547 field boxes	9 field boxes	14,395	25	576
	Grapefruit:	297,246 field boxes	40 field boxes	7,432	25	298
	Picking	39,735 field boxes	75 field boxes	530	25	22

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Table 3 continued

				Required	Available	Required number
Month	Crop and task	Size of task	Output per man-day	man-days	days	of workers*
August	Grapefruit: Fumigat-					
(cont.)	ing	2,863 acres	0.75 acre	3,816	25	153
(Totals		5.70 0010	36,911	25	1,477 man-month
September		2,100 tons	4 tons	525	26	21
•	Beans (limas and other					
	varieties):					
	Piling	10,793 acres	2 acres	5,397	26	208
	Threshing	87,008 cwt. t	25 bags	3,481	13	268 (from 15t
						to 30th)
	Sugar beets: Topping					
	and loading	24,939 tons	4.5 tons	5,542	26	214
	Bean straw: Baling	6,750 tons	3 tons	2,250	13	173 (from 15t
	Commenter West's	0.48				to 30th)
		247 acres	60 hours per acre	1,647	26	64
	Endive: Thinning	90 acres	0.5 acre	180	18	10 (from 1st
	Hoeing	75 acres	1 acre	ne	26	to 21st)
	Tomatoes (canning):	75 acres	1 acre	75	26	3
	Picking	2,439 tons	1,500 pounds	3,252	26	126
	Tomatoes (market):	2,400 00115	1,500 pounds	3,232	20	120
	Picking	100,535 lugs	23 packed lugs	4,372	26	169
	Citrus Lemons:	200,000 2460	Lo packed rage	4,012	20	105
	1	102,973 field boxes	ll field boxes	9,361	26	360
		322,652 field boxes	40 field boxes	8,067	26	311
	Grapefruit:			0,00		011
	Picking	19,867 field boxes	75 field boxes	265	26	11
	Fumigating	2,863 acres	0.75 acre	3,816	26	147
	Walnuts: Harvesting					
		3,323 tons	200 pounds ‡	33,230	26	1,279
	Totals			81,460	26	3,134 man-month
ctober	Alfalfa: Baling	2,100 tons	4 tons	525	25	21
	Beans (Limas and					
	other varieties)	70 770				
		32,378 acres	2 acres	16,189	25	648
	Threshing	349,032 cwt.+	25 cwt.	13,922	25	557

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Table 3 con	tinued.				 	
				Required	Available	Required number
Month	Crop and task	Size of task	Output per man-day	man-days	days	of workers*
October	Sugar beets: Topping					
(cont.)	and loading	15,095 tons	4.5 tons	3,355	25	135
	Bean straw: Baling	13,500 tons	3 tons	4,500	25	180
	Carrots: Weeding	176 acres	60 hours per acre	1,174	25	47
	Harvesting	4.933 crates	12 packed crates	412	14	30 (for 14 days)
	Endive: Hoeing	75 acres	1 acre	75	25	3
	Peppers (pimientos):					
	Picking	525 tons	600 pounds	1,750	25	70
	Peppers (bell):			,,,,,,		
	Picking	426,377 pounds	1,200 pounds	356	25	15
	Tomatoes (canning):	200,011 pounds	2,000 pounds		20	20
	Picking	3,484 tons	2,000 pounds	3,484	25	140
	Tomatoes (market):	0,404 0010	S,000 pounds	0,404	20	140
	Picking	160,856 lugs	23 packed lugs	6,994	25	280
	Apricots: Pruning	758 acres T	0.5 acre	1,516	25	61
	Citrus Lemons:	700 00100 1	0.00 0.010	1,010	20	01
	Picking	119,682 field boxes	12 field boxes	9,974	25	399
		325,192 field boxes	30 field boxes	10,840	25	434
	Grapefruit: Pick-		DO IICIA CONCS	10,040	20	404
	ing	6,623 field boxes	75 field boxes	89	25	4
	Fumigating	2,863 acres	0.75 acre	3,816	25	153
	Walnuts: Harvesting	2,000 acres	0.75 0.016	0,010	20	155
	by hand	9,304 tons	200 pounds +	93,040	25	3,722
	Totals	7,001 00110	200 podings ;	172,011	25	6,881 man-months
November		2,100 tons	4 tons	525	23	23
	Bean straw: Baling	6,750 tons	3 tons	2,250	12	188 (from 1st to
		0,700 00110	0 00115	2,200	100	15th)
	Carrots: Weeding	317 acres	60 hours per acre	2,114	23	92
	Harvesting	14,800 crates	12 packed crates	1,234	23	54
	Endive: Cutting	3,840 crates	37 crates	104	12	9 (for 12 days)
	Peppers (pimientos):	0,040 Clates	or craces	104	16	9 (10F 12 days)
	Picking	1,050 tons	800 pounds	2,625	23	115
	Peppers (bell):	2,000 60115	ooo pounds	2,025	20	115
	Picking	75,243 pounds	1,200 pounds	63	23	3
	Tomatoes (canning):	poulids	1, 200 pounds	00	23	0
	Picking	1,045 tons	1,500 pounds	1,394	12	117 (from 1st to
	TOTTUE	1,040 tons	1,500 pounds	1,394	16	117 (170m 1st to 15th)
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Table 3 continued.

Month	Crop and task	Size of task	Output per man-day		Available days	Required number
November (cont.)	Tomatoes (market): Picking Apricots: Pruning Citrus Lemons: Picking	17,235 lugs 758 acres † 119,682 field boxes 271,840 field boxes 1,717 acres	23 packed lugs 0.5 acre 13 field boxes 30 field boxes 0.75 acre 200 pounds †	750 1,516 9,207 9,062 2,290 6,650	23 23 23 23 23 23	of workers* 33 66 401 394 99 554 (from 1st
December	Totals Carrots: Weeding Harvesting Endive: Cutting Peas: Picking Peppers (pimientos) Picking Apricots: Pruning Citrus Lemons: Picking	376 acres 16,808 crates 5,760 crates 4,915 hampers 525 tons 758 acres †	60 hours per acre 12 packed crates 37 crates 4 hampers 600 pounds 0.5 acre 19 field boxes	39,784 2,507 1,401 156 1,229 1,750 1,516	23 21 21 15 8 21 21 21	to 15th) 1,730 man-months 120 67 11 (for 15 days) 154 (for 8 days) 84 73
	Oranges: Picking Totals	30,487 field boxes	30 field boxes	1,016	21	48 1,047 man-months

^{*}On a monthly basis unless otherwise stated.

[†] Estimated portion of job done by seasonal workers.

[†] Actual average output per day per worker is probably much less than indicated.

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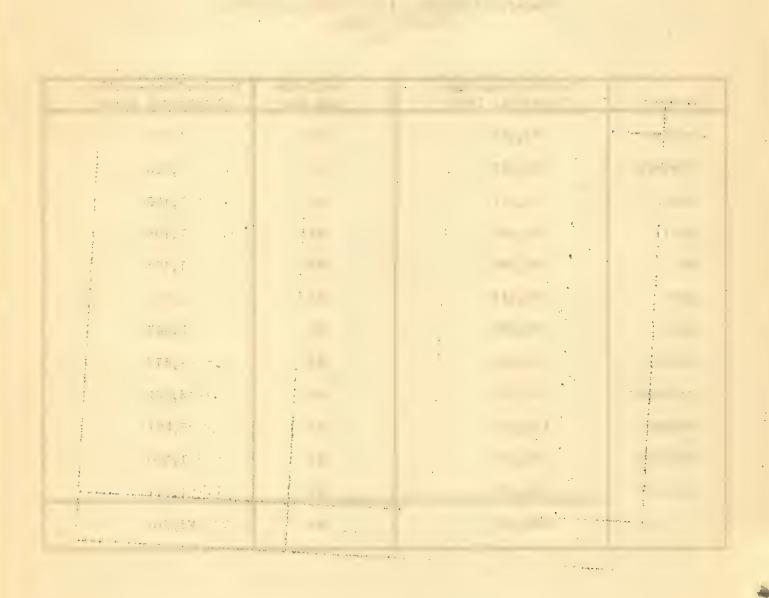
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TABLE 4

Summary of Seasonal Labor Needs by Months
Ventura County
1935

Month	Required man-days of seasonal labor	Available work days	Required man-months of seasonal labor
January	37,252	19	1,961
February	35,012	23	1,523
March	27,021	24	1,126
April	28,667	24	1,195
May	36,596	26	1,408
June	47,117	25	1,885
July	102,496	26	3,943
August	36,911	25	1,477
September	81,460	26	3,134
October	172,011	25	6,881
November	39,784	23	1,730
December	21,970	21	1,047
Total	666,297	an pa	27,310



Notes

Notes on Table 1.-- Froduction figures on lemons, oranges, and grapefruit, as given in the 1935 report of the Agricultural Commissioner, have been recalculated as follows, in order to determine the total number of field boxes picked.

Lemons:

1,600,033 packed boxes of 76 pounds net = 121,602,508 pounds 144,556 packed boxes of 76 pounds net = 10,986,256 pounds By-products -- 16,748.5 tons = 33,497,000 pounds Total lemon production 166,085,764 pounds

Which is equivalent to 3,321,716 field boxes of 50 pounds.

Oranges:

Valencias -- 1,360,615 packed boxes of 75 pounds net = 102,046,125 pounds

Navels -- 308,413 packed boxes of 75 pounds net = 23,130,975 pounds

Miscellaneous oranges -- 7,998 packed boxes of 75

pounds net = 599,850 pounds

Orange by-products -- 6,977 tons = 13,954,000 pounds

Total orange production 139,730,950 pounds

Which is equivalent to 2,540,563 field boxes of 55 pounds.

Grapefruit:

37,527 packed boxes of 60 pounds net = 2,251,620 pounds
Plus 15 per cent allowance for culls, estimated from
data from California Arizona Orange Grapefruit Agency
Total grapefruit production 397,360 pounds
2,648,980 pounds

Which is equivalent to 66,224 field boxes of 40 pounds.

Notes on Table 2.-- Data concerning "time of need" as shown in this table break down required seasonal labor into the periods when the work is performed, in order to permit a subsequent determination of labor needs by months (table 3). Some operations are performed only to a limited extent by seasonal workers. For instance, only about 50 per cent of the pruning of appricots is estimated to be done by seasonal help. This having been done in several different months, a portion was assigned to each. Some operations are performed on only a portion of the acreage each year, as, for example, fumigation of citrus orchards, which is done on about half the acreage annually.

The amount of work done each month is based on the cropping system followed during 1935. The allotting of amounts of work is based on findings concerning local farming practices, and required time to "make" a crop resulting from inquiry of producers and records of shipments, the latter proving helpful in fixing dates of planting, and subsequent tasks involved in producing a given crop. Proportionate amounts of output harvested each month were determined from data of local practices with respect to harvesting, and from carlot shipments of perishable products and oranges. Lemon harvest by months is based on records of the monthly lemon "pick", since much of the crop is stored for considerable periods before shipment.

Notes on Table 3. -- Table 3 is the condensed summary of labor needs as worked out for Ventura County as a result of findings pertinent to 1935. The data are presented by months with the tasks which were performed in each month indicated by

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both crop and task. The size of the job was calculated from the data appearing in table 1 (acreage and production) and table 2 (task, time of performance, and percentage of work pertinent to a given month.) The output per man-day was calculated as indicated in the foreword presenting table 3. The number of required man-days is a result of dividing the size of task by output per man-day. The available days for the different tasks involve two variables. The first is the number of days when field work is possible because of favorable weather conditions. The basis for this column was determined from a study of the monthly weather charts of the United States Weather Bureau for the years 1933, 1934, and 1935. These data indicated available days per month as follows (based on a 26-day working month without allowance for holidays):

Month	Available days*	Month	Available days*
January	19	July	26
February	23	August	25
March	24	September	26
April	24	October	25
May	26	November	23
June	25	December	21

*Based on precipitation records of the Oxnard Weather Station for the years 1933, 1934, and 1935.

The second factor influencing the number of available days was the size of the job. If the output was but for a few cars, then the number of days was limited to the time needed to get out these cars efficiently. If a field operation had to be performed in a period less than the number of available days during the month, then the specific number of days was noted. These restrictions are shown in parentheses. For example, in November, baling of bean straw was limited to the first-half of the month, cutting of endive to 12 days, etc.

The totals of table 3 show the total required man-days of needed seasonal labor, the available days for field work during the month, and the number of men (as defined in the opening paragraph of table 3) required on a monthly basis to care for the tasks ordinarily performed by seasonal workers.

In an area such as Ventura County, involving a large acreage and variety of crops, the findings as set forth in this report are bound to fluctuate materially from year to year, because of the influence of market outlook upon what and how much acreage is planted and when it is planted; because of variable seasonal conditions affecting yields, times of performing operations, and available days; and because of harvesting operations on certain crops being speeded up to supply a good market or retarded to avoid a poor one, resulting in marked variations in the need for harvest labor.

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